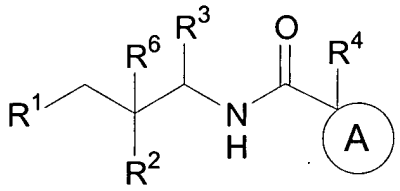
IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A compound of structural formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

R^1 is selected from:

(1) isopropyl,
(2) isobutyl,
(3) n-propyl,
(4) cyclopropyl,
(5) cyclobutyl,
(6) cyclopentyl,
(7) cyclohexyl,
(8) piperidinyl,
(9) phenyl, and
(10) pyridyl,

wherein ~~each~~ isopropyl, isobutyl, and n-propyl ~~alkyl is~~ are optionally substituted with one R^a substituent, and cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, piperidinyl, phenyl, and pyridyl ~~each cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl is~~ are optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^2 is selected from:

(1) cyclobutyl,
(2) cyclopentyl,
(3) cyclohexyl,

(4) pyrrolidinyl,
(5) pyrimidinyl,
(6) benzoxazolyl,
(7) dihydroindolyl,
(8) dihydroquinolinyl,
(9) benzotriazolyl,
(10) thiophenyl,
(11) indolyl,
(12) indazolyl,
(13) pyrrolidinyl,
(14) pyridazinyl
(15) triazolyl,
(16) azaindolyl,
(17) cyclobutylmethoxy,
(18) phenyl,
(19) pyridyl,
(20) $-NR^cR^d$, and
(21) $-CO_2R^d$,

wherein ~~each alkyl is optionally substituted with one or two R^a substituents and~~ each phenyl or pyridyl is independently with one to three R^b substituents;

R^3 is selected from:

(1) C_{1-4}alkyl,
(2) C_{2-4}alkenyl,
(3) C_{2-4}alkynyl,
(4) C_{3-7}cycloalkyl,

wherein alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R^4 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-4}alkyl, and
(3) cyclopropyl,

wherein alkyl and cyclopropyl are optionally substituted with one, two or three R^a substituents;

R^6 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) methyl,
(3) hydroxyl,
(4) halogen, and
(5) –CN;

A is benzodioxane or dihydrobenzodioxane, wherein the **A** ring system is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents selected from a group independently selected from oxo and R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^d$,
(2) halogen,
(3) SO_2R^c,
(4) SH,
(5) SCH_3,
(6) $-NR^cR^d$,
(7) $-C(O)R^c$,
(8) $-CO_2R^c$,
(9) $-CF_3$, and
(10) $-OCF_3$;

each R^b is independently selected from:

(1) methoxy,
(2) halogen,
(3) -SH,
(4) $-SCH_3$,
(5) $-NH_2$,
(6) $-C(O)CH_3$,
(7) $-CO_2H$,

(8) $-CO_2CH_3$,
(9) $-CF_3$,
(10) $-OCF_3$,
(11) C_{3-6} cycloalkyl,
(12) C_{1-4}alkyl,
(13) phenyl,
(14) benzyl, and
(15) heteroaryl;

R^c is H or C_{1-4} alkyl unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents selected from R^h;

R^d is selected from:
(1) hydrogen;
(2) C_{1-10} alkyl;
(3) C_{3-10} cycloalkyl;
(4) cycloheteroalkyl;
(5) phenyl;
(6) heteroaryl and
(7) benzyl,
either unsubstituted or substituted on a carbon or nitrogen atom with one or two substituents selected from R^h;

each R^h is independently selected from:
(1) halogen,
(2) C_{1-4}alkyl,
(3) $-O-C_{1-4}$alkyl,
(4) $-S-C_{1-4}$alkyl,
(5) -CN,
(6) $-CF_3$, and
(7) $-OCF_3$;

wherein cycloalkyl is selected from: cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, decahydronaphthyl, and indanyl;

wherein cycloheteroalkyl is selected from: pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, dihydroisoindolyl, pyranyl, perhydroazepinyl, and tetrahydrofuranyl;

wherein heteroaryl is selected from: pyridinyl, benzimidazolyl, imidazolyl, oxazolidinyl, triazolyl, and benzotriazolyl;

m is selected from 1 and 2; and
n is selected from 1, 2, and 3;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R^3 is selected from:

(1) methyl,
(2) trifluoromethyl, and
(3) cyclopropyl;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claims 4 - 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein:

R^1 is selected from:

(1) phenyl, and
(2) pyridyl;

wherein phenyl and pyridyl are optionally substituted with one or two R^b substituents;

R^2 is selected from:

(1) phenyl, and
(2) pyridyl;

wherein phenyl and pyridyl are optionally substituted with one or two R^b substituents;

R^3 is methyl;

R^4 is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

A is selected from:

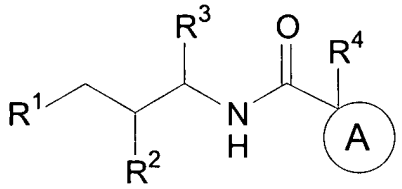
(1) benzodioxanyl, and

(2) dihydrobenzodioxanyl,

each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b; and

each R^b is independently selected from halogen;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) A compound of structural formula IA:



(IA)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

R^1 is selected from:

(1) phenyl, and

(2) pyridyl;

wherein phenyl and pyridyl are optionally substituted with one or two R^b substituents;

R^2 is selected from:

(1) phenyl, and

(2) pyridyl;

wherein phenyl and pyridyl are optionally substituted with one or two R^b substituents;

R^3 is selected from:

(1) C_{1-4}alkyl,

(2) C_{2-4}alkenyl,

(3) C_{2-4}alkynyl,

(4) C_{3-7}cycloalkyl,

wherein alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R^4 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-4}alkyl, and
(3) cyclopropyl,

wherein alkyl and cyclopropyl are optionally substituted with one, two or three R^a substituents;

A is benzodioxane or dihydrobenzodioxane, wherein the **A** ring system is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents selected from a group independently selected from oxo and R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^d$,
(2) halogen,
(3) SO_2R^c,
(4) SH,
(5) SCH_3,
(6) $-NR^cR^d$,
(7) $-C(O)R^c$,
(8) $-CO_2R^c$,
(9) $-CF_3$, and
(10) $-OCF_3$;

each R^b is independently selected from:

(1) methoxy,
(2) halogen,
(3) -SH,
(4) $-SCH_3$,
(5) $-NH_2$,

(6) $-C(O)CH_3$,
(7) $-CO_2H$,
(8) $-CO_2CH_3$,
(9) $-CF_3$,
(10) $-OCF_3$,
(11) C_{3-6} cycloalkyl,
(12) C_{1-4}alkyl,
(13) phenyl,
(14) benzyl, and
(15) heteroaryl;

R^c is H or C_{1-4} alkyl unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents selected from R^h;

R^d is selected from:
(1) hydrogen;
(2) C_{1-10} alkyl;
(3) C_{3-10} cycloalkyl;
(4) cycloheteroalkyl;
(5) phenyl;
(6) heteroaryl and
(7) benzyl,
either unsubstituted or substituted on a carbon or nitrogen atom with one or two substituents selected from R^h;

each R^h is independently selected from:
(1) halogen,
(2) C_{1-4}alkyl,
(3) $-O-C_{1-4}$alkyl,
(4) $-S-C_{1-4}$alkyl,
(5) -CN,
(6) $-CF_3$, and
(7) $-OCF_3$;

wherein cycloalkyl is selected from: cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, decahydronaphthyl, and indanyl;

wherein cycloheteroalkyl is selected from: pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, dihydroisoindolyl, pyranyl, perhydroazepinyl, and tetrahydrofuranyl;

wherein heteroaryl is selected from: pyridinyl, benzimidazolyl, imidazolyl, oxazolidinyl, triazolyl, and benzotriazolyl;

m is selected from 1 and 2; and
n is selected from 1, 2, and 3;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 8, wherein R^3 is selected from:

(1) methyl,
(2) trifluoromethyl, and
(3) cyclopropyl;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 11 - 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 8, wherein:
R^1 is selected from phenyl and 4-chlorophenyl;
R^2 is selected from:

(1) phenyl, and
(2) pyridyl,

wherein phenyl and pyridyl are optionally substituted with one or two halogen substituents;

R^3 is methyl;
R^4 is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

A is selected from:

(1) benzodioxanyl, and

(2) dihydrobenzodioxanyl,

each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^b is independently selected from halogen;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 8, selected from:
(1) *N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(2) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(3) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(4) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(5) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(6) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(7) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(8) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(9) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(10) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-6-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(11) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-7-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 8, selected from:
(1) *N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
(2) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
(3) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
(4) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomers I and II (1:1),
(5) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
(6) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
(7) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomers I and II (1:1),
(8) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide, diastereomer III,
(9) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer IV,
(10) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
(11) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
(12) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomers I and II (1:1),
(13) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomers I and II (3:1),
(14) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomers I and II (1:1),
(15) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
(16) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I enantiomer A,

(17) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I enantiomer B,
(18) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I, enantiomer A,
(19) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I, enantiomer B,
(20) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
(21) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
(22) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-6-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
(23) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-7-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
(24) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-6-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
(25) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-7-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claims 17 - 22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Original) A composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 24 – 29 (Cancelled)